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ABSTRACT

In an effort to provide faculty and administrators with a current profile of the diverse student population at Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC), a study was conducted of new students attending PVCC in fall 1986. The new student population, representing 34% of the total student body, included 756 first-time and 708 transfer students. The ratio of new to returning students was approximately 1:2, having remained fairly constant during the 1980s. During this same period, enrollment increases and decreases for new students mirrored changes for the total student population. Between fall 1984 and fall 1986, the percentage increases for both new students and the total student population was just over 12%. Demographically, the fall 1986 new and returning students were quite similar: the ratio of males to females was approximately 1:2; over 90% of all students were white; and the average age of students was between 29 and 31. More notable differences existed within the new student population (e.g., in comparison to transfer students, first-time students were younger; more likely to attend school full-time; more likely to take day classes at the main PVCC campus; nearly twice as likely to be minorities; and more likely to be working towards degrees or certificates). In comparison with the Virginia Community College System as a whole, disproportionately more PVCC new students were female, white, and studying part-time and off-campus. The study data is displayed in 7 tables and 13 figures. (PAA)

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PVCC New Student Profile Fall Quarter 1986

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Piedmont Virginia Community College
Charlottesville, Virginia

April 1987

Institutional Research and Planning
Report Number 3-87

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PVCC Institutional Research Brief

PVCC NEW STUDENT PROFILE: FALL 1986

This brief summarizes the major findings of PVCC New Student Profile: Fall Quarter 1986 (PVCC Institutional Research Report No. 3-87, April 1987), a report on new students at Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) during Fall Quarter 1986. The student headcount at PVCC since its opening in 1972 by student status (first-time, transfer, and returning) is provided below in Table 1. Student new to both PVCC and college in general are classified as first-time; students new to PVCC but having one or more credits from other institutions of higher education are classified as transfers; students with prior attendance at PVCC are classified as returning.

TABLE 1: PVCC FALL QUARTER HEADCOUNT BY TYPE OF STUDENT (1972-1986)

Year	First-Time Students No.	Pct.	Transfer Students No.	Pct.	Returning Students No.	Pct.	TOTAL STUDENTS No.	Increase
1972	270	58.4%	180	39.0%	12	2.6%	462	--
1973	469	42.8%	403	36.8%	224	20.4%	1096	137.2%
1974	504	32.8%	466	30.3%	566	36.8%	1536	40.1%
1975	975	48.4%	88	4.4%	953	47.3%	2016	31.3%
1976	881	43.4%	98	4.8%	1049	51.7%	2028	0.6%
1977	1237	47.3%	74	2.8%	1305	49.9%	2616	29.0%
1978	1488	48.3%	79	2.6%	1513	49.1%	3080	17.7%
1979	1366	42.5%	93	2.9%	1752	54.6%	3211	4.3%
1980	1396	39.4%	92	2.6%	2057	58.0%	3545	10.4%
1981	1144	30.8%	355	9.6%	2215	59.6%	3714	4.8%
1982	912	26.7%	269	7.9%	2236	65.4%	3417	-8.0%
1983	1120	29.7%	291	7.7%	2359	62.6%	3770	10.3%
1984	759	20.7%	547	14.9%	2362	64.4%	3668	-2.7%
1985	696	18.1%	702	18.2%	2449	63.7%	3847	4.9%
1986	756	18.3%	708	17.1%	2675	64.6%	4139	7.6%

SOURCE: VCCS Student Enrollment Booklet, Tables 3B and 4. Note that percentages are by row.

The ratio of new to returning students at PVCC was approximately 1:2 during Fall Quarter 1986, and this ratio has been fairly constant during the 1980's. The enrollment of new students has mirrored that of all students during this time period. Between fall 1982 and fall 1983, large increases occurred both in new and in total student headcount; between fall 1983 and fall 1984, both new and total student headcount decreased; between fall 1984 and fall 1986, the percentage increase in both new and total student headcount was slightly over 12%.

(see reverse side)

In most respects, fall 1986 new and returning students were quite similar. The ratio of males to females was approximately 1:3, over 90% of all students were white, the typical age of a student was 29 to 31, and 2 of every 3 students resided in the city of Charlottesville or the county of Albemarle. A slightly higher percentage of new students studied full-time at PVCC, and a slightly lower percentage were unclassified.

The differences among new students were more pronounced than the differences between new and returning students. First-time students were typically younger than transfer students and were more likely to study full-time at PVCC. Proportionally more first-time students studied during the day at the main PVCC campus than did transfer students. A larger percentage of first-time students were enrolled in programs of study leading toward degrees or certificates.

PVCC NEW STUDENT PROFILE

FALL QUARTER 1986

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PVCC NEW STUDENT PROFILE
FALL QUARTER 1986

INTRODUCTION

One year ago, the Office of Institutional Research and Planning at Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) issued a profile on first-time students who attended the college during Fall Quarter 1985.[1] First-time students were defined as new students to both PVCC and college in general. Students who were new to PVCC but had earned one or more credits at other institutions of higher education were defined as transfer students. Students who had attended PVCC previously were defined as returning students.

This study is a follow-up study to PVCC First-Time Student Profile: Fall Quarter 1985. The major difference between the two studies is that new students, rather than first-time students, are profiled. New students are defined as both first-time and transfer students.

The reason for concentrating on new students, rather than just first-time students, is that new students as a whole are quite diverse. Some new students are recent high school graduates attending college for the first time. Others are attending college for the first time, but have waited until after raising families, or retiring from jobs, to begin their studies. Some new students are college graduates taking one or more courses at PVCC purely for personal

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[1]Ronald B. Head, PVCC First-Time Student Profile: Fall Quarter 1985 (PVCC Institutional Research Report No. 1-86, April 1986).

interest. Others are college graduates taking courses at PVCC in order to gain skills for new jobs or careers.

Because of this diversity, it is important that faculty and administrators understand who actually enrolls at PVCC for the first time, regardless of whether or not these new students have attended college previously. If new student expectations and faculty perceptions differ, new students will likely never become returning students. It is hoped that this study will offer some perspectives for understanding new PVCC students by providing a longitudinal profile of their demographic and enrollment characteristics.

METHODOLOGY

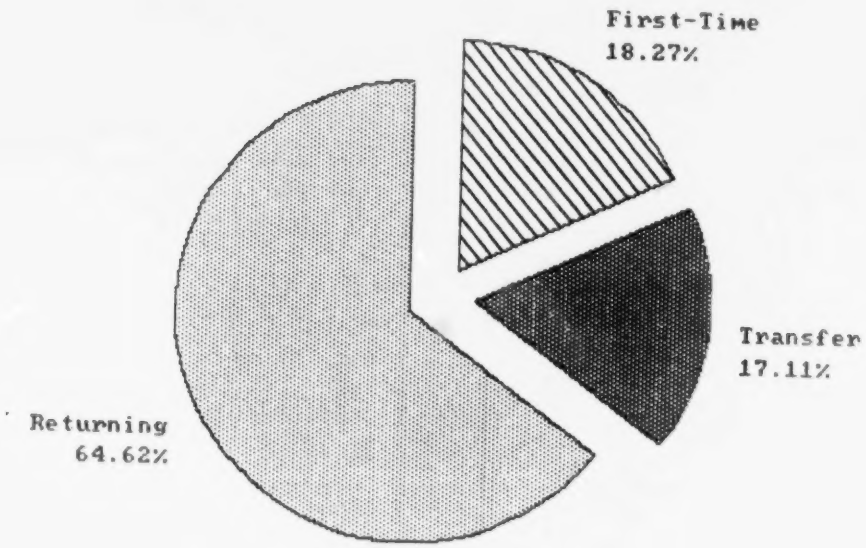
In terms of methodology, this study is identical to PVCC First-Time Student Profile: Fall Quarter 1985. The statistical treatment is descriptive, only fall end-of-quarter figures are used, and data sources are acknowledged at the bottom of each table in the study. For the most part, data were obtained from the Student Enrollment Booklets published electronically each fall by the Virginia Community College System (VCCS).

NEW STUDENT HEADCOUNT

One-thousand four-hundred sixty-four students enrolled at PVCC for the first time during Fall Quarter 1986. Of these, 756 were first-time students and 708 were transfer students. New students

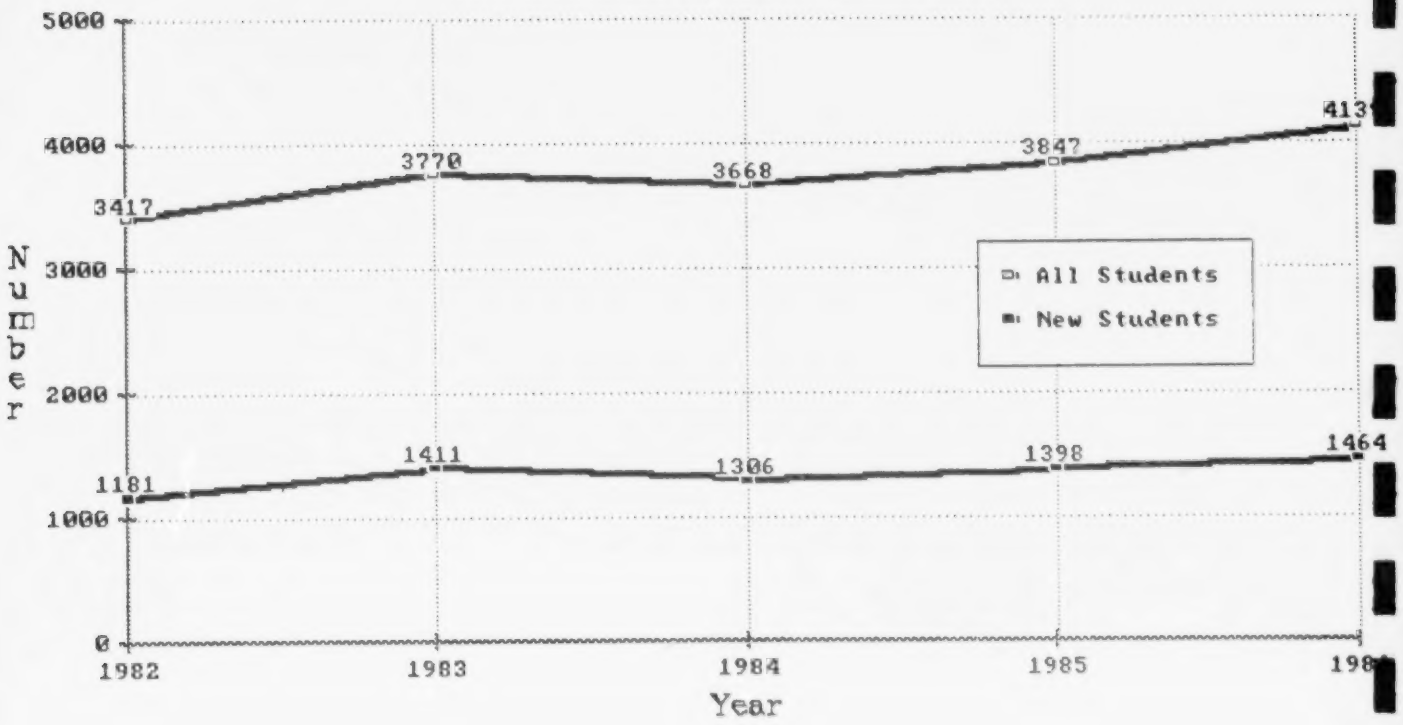
accounted for 35.4% of the student headcount during Fall Quarter 1986. As can be seen in Figure 1 below, 18.3% of the student headcount consisted of first-time students, 17.1% consisted of transfer students, and 64.6% consisted of returning students.

Figure 1: PVCC Headcount By Student Status (Fall 1986)



During the past four years, the enrollment of new students has mirrored that of the student body as a whole. This is graphically shown in Figure 2. Between fall 1984 and fall 1986, both new students and all students have increased by slightly over 12%.

Figure 2: PVCC Fall Headcount (1982-86)
All Students/New Students



While the proportion of new to returning students has been fairly constant during the past four years, the proportion of first-time to transfer students has not. As can be seen in Table 1, both the number and percentage of transfer students rose, and the number and percentage of first-time students fell, for three of the last four years.

TABLE 1: PVCC FALL QUARTER HEADCOUNT BY TYPE OF STUDENT (1972-1986)

Year	First-Time Students No.	Pct.	Transfer Students No.	Pct.	Returning Students No.	Pct.	TOTAL STUDENTS No.	Increase
1972	270	58.4%	180	39.0%	12	2.6%	462	--
1973	469	42.8%	403	36.8%	224	20.4%	1096	137.2%
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1975	975	48.4%	88	4.4%	953	47.3%	2016	31.3%
1976	881	43.4%	98	4.8%	1049	51.7%	2028	0.6%
1977	1237	47.3%	74	2.8%	1305	49.9%	2616	29.0%
1978	1488	48.3%	79	2.6%	1513	49.1%	3080	17.7%
1979	1366	42.5%	93	2.9%	1752	54.6%	3211	4.3%
1980	1396	39.4%	92	2.6%	2057	58.0%	3545	10.4%
1981	1144	30.8%	355	9.6%	2215	59.6%	3714	4.8%
1982	912	26.7%	269	7.9%	2236	65.4%	3417	-8.0%
1983	1120	29.7%	291	7.7%	2359	62.6%	3770	10.3%
1984	759	20.7%	547	14.9%	2362	64.4%	3668	-2.7%
1985	696	18.1%	702	18.2%	2449	63.7%	3847	4.9%
1986	756	18.3%	708	17.1%	2675	64.6%	4139	7.6%

SOURCE: VCCS Student Enrollment Booklet, Tables 3B and 4. Note that percentages are by row.

In fall 1985, the number of first-time students was the lowest in eleven years, and the number of transfer students was the highest ever. Because first-timers are typically recent high school graduates, the 37.9% decrease in PVCC first-time student enrollment between 1983 and 1985 led to some concern over the recruiting of recent high school graduates.

Between fall 1985 and fall 1986, the number of first-time students rose from 696 to 756, an increase of 8.6%. Although the percentage of first-timers within the student body as a whole also rose (from 18.1% to 18.3%), the increase itself was less dramatic (1.1%). Because the proportion of first-time to transfer and returning students increased by such a small percentage, the rise in the number of first-time students cannot be attributed to any single factor. Quite possibly, more effective recruiting strategies led to the increase in

first-timers, but it is equally possible that the increase was a factor of the overall increase in the total student population.

Fall 1985 marked the first time in PVCC's history that transfer students outnumbered first-time students. It also marked the only time, because in fall 1986, the number of first-time students was greater than the number of transfer students. Although the number of transfer students increased between fall 1985 and fall 1986 (from 702 to 708), the percentage decreased (from 18.2% to 17.1%).

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW STUDENTS

As can be seen in Table 2 and Figures 3 through 5, new PVCC students during Fall Quarter 1986 were typically white females between the ages of 18 and 45 who resided in either the city of Charlottesville or the county of Albemarle.

TABLE 2: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF FALL 1986 PVCC STUDENTS

CATEGORY	First-Time No.	First-Time Pct.	Transfer No.	Transfer Pct.	Returning No.	Returning Pct.	All Students No.	All Students Pct.
SEX								
Male	290	38.4%	260	36.7%	918	34.3%	1468	35.5%
Female	466	61.6%	448	63.3%	1757	65.7%	2671	64.5%
RACE								
White	632	83.6%	647	91.4%	2390	89.3%	3669	88.6%
Black	104	13.8%	44	6.2%	235	8.8%	383	9.3%
Indian	5	0.7%	0	0.0%	6	0.2%	11	0.3%
Asian	6	0.8%	13	1.8%	31	1.2%	50	1.2%
Hispanic	7	0.9%	4	0.6%	9	0.3%	20	0.5%
Other	2	0.3%	0	0.0%	4	0.1%	6	0.1%
AGE								
Under 18	15	2.0%	3	0.4%	7	0.3%	25	0.6%
18-21	358	47.4%	97	13.7%	437	16.3%	892	21.6%
22-24	60	7.9%	126	17.8%	337	12.6%	523	12.6%
25-34	125	16.5%	241	34.0%	941	35.2%	1307	31.6%
35-44	107	14.2%	152	21.5%	605	22.6%	864	20.9%
45-59	57	7.5%	59	8.3%	282	10.5%	398	9.6%
60 & Over	34	4.5%	30	4.2%	66	2.5%	130	3.1%
RESIDENCE								
Albemarle	250	33.1%	232	32.8%	1057	39.5%	1539	37.2%
Buckingham	38	5.0%	16	2.3%	54	2.0%	108	2.6%
Fluvanna	35	4.6%	24	3.4%	129	4.8%	188	4.5%
Greene	36	4.8%	13	1.8%	132	4.9%	181	4.4%
Louisa	40	5.3%	16	2.3%	80	3.0%	136	3.3%
Nelson	27	3.6%	18	2.5%	99	3.7%	144	3.5%
Charlottesville	226	29.9%	276	39.0%	883	33.0%	1385	33.5%
TOTAL IN-DISTRICT	652	86.2%	595	84.0%	2434	91.0%	3681	88.9%
OUT-OF-DISTRICT	82	10.8%	70	9.9%	229	8.6%	381	9.2%
OUT-OF-STATE	22	2.9%	43	6.1%	12	0.4%	77	1.9%
TOTAL	756	18.3%	708	17.1%	2675	64.6%	4139	100.0%

SOURCE: Information on sex, race, and age was taken from the VCCS Student Enrollment Booklet, Tables 11B, 14A, 14B, and 15. Information on residence was taken directly from VCCS student data by means of a Fortran program written by the author. Note that percentages are by column by group except for the last row, which indicates the percentage of students by category in the student body as a whole.

Figure 3: PVCC New Students By Sex Fall 1986

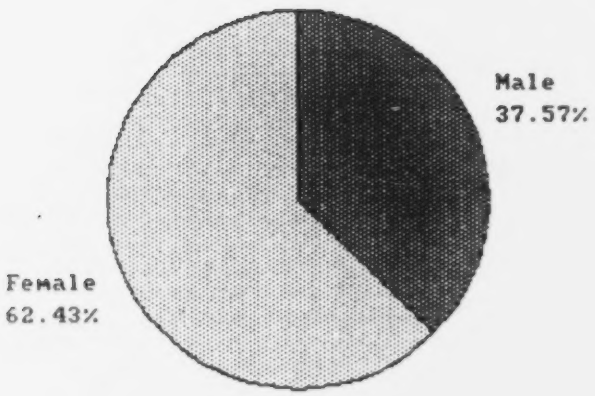


Figure 4: PVCC New Students By Race Fall 1986

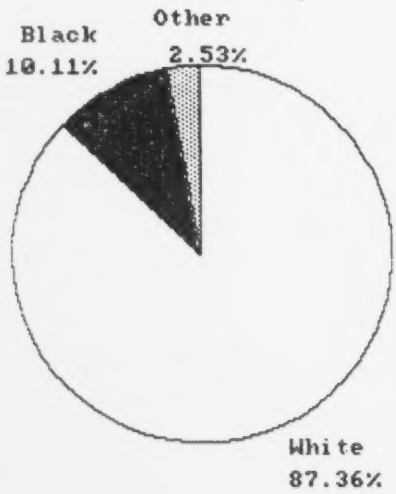
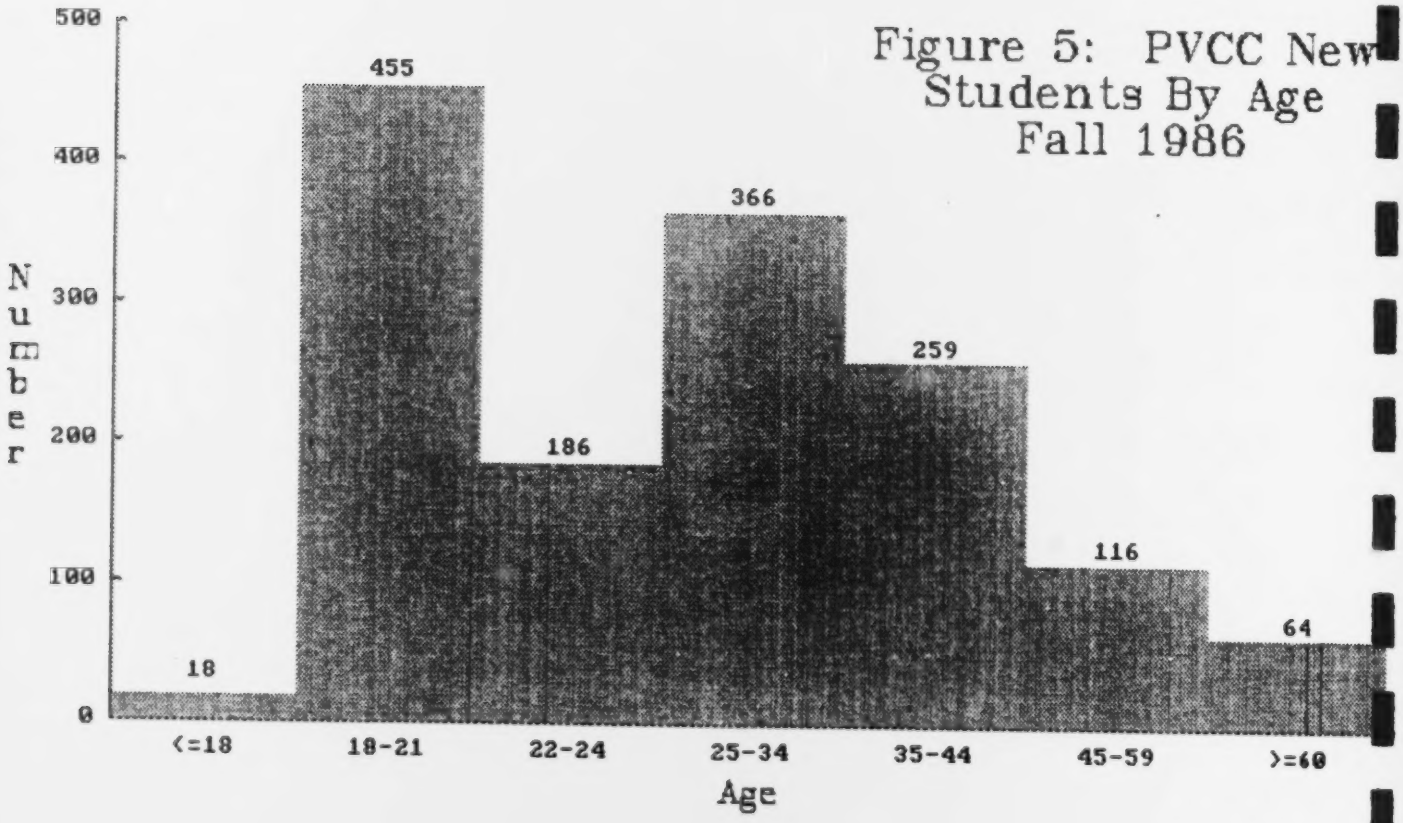


Figure 5: PVCC New Students By Age Fall 1986



First-time, transfer, and returning students were quite similar in terms of sex and residence. The proportion of females to males was approximately two to one, and between 60% and 70% of the students resided in either the city of Charlottesville or the county of Albemarle.

In terms of race, proportionally more first-time students were black than either transfer or returning students. Over thirteen percent of all first-time students were black; over 6% of all transfer students, and over 8% of all returning students, were black. For further information on the racial composition of the fall 1986 PVCC student body, the reader is referred to Minority Enrollment Report: Fall Quarter 1986 (PVCC Institutional Research Report No. 1-87, February 1987).

With respect to age, transfer and returning students tended to be older than first-time students. The mean (or average) age for all students during fall 1986 was 31; for both transfer and returning students, the mean age was 32; for first-time students, it was 28. The median (or midpoint) age for all students was 29; for transfer students, the median age was 28; for returning students, it was 30; for first-time students, it was 22. This difference in age can be explained by the fact that historically a larger number of first-time than of transfer students tend to be recent high school graduates.

These demographic characteristics have been fairly stable over time (see Table 3). Since the late 1970's, the ratio of males to females has been 2:3 and the ratio of whites to minorities has been nearly 9:1. Both the number and proportion of new students residing within the PVCC service region were slightly higher in fall 1986 than

during previous fall quarters. This may be a result of increased recruiting efforts by the college, or it may be a byproduct of the overall enrollment increase between fall 1985 and fall 1986.

TABLE 3: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF PVCC FALL QUARTER NEW STUDENTS

	1982		1983		1984		1985		1986	
CATEGORY	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.	No.	Pct.
SEX										
Male	467	39.5%	560	39.7%	528	40.4%	557	39.8%	550	37.6%
Female	714	60.5%	851	60.3%	778	59.6%	841	60.2%	914	62.4%
RACE										
White	1055	89.3%	1236	87.6%	1155	88.4%	1237	88.5%	1279	87.4%
Black	101	8.6%	146	10.3%	114	8.7%	138	9.9%	148	10.1%
Indian	2	0.2%	2	0.1%	2	0.2%	0	0.0%	5	0.3%
Asian	19	1.6%	18	1.3%	19	1.5%	16	1.1%	19	1.3%
Hispanic	2	0.2%	7	0.5%	10	0.8%	5	0.4%	11	0.8%
Other	2	0.2%	2	0.1%	6	0.5%	2	0.1%	2	0.1%
AGE										
Under 18	21	1.8%	32	2.3%	14	1.1%	27	1.9%	18	1.2%
18-21	418	35.4%	432	30.6%	413	31.6%	399	28.5%	455	31.1%
22-24	165	14.0%	214	15.2%	171	13.1%	164	11.7%	186	12.7%
25-34	336	28.5%	429	30.4%	385	29.5%	399	28.5%	366	25.0%
35-44	159	13.5%	199	14.1%	193	14.8%	245	17.5%	259	17.7%
45-59	69	5.8%	94	6.7%	114	8.7%	148	10.6%	116	7.9%
60 & Over	13	1.1%	11	0.8%	16	1.2%	16	1.1%	64	4.4%
RESIDENCE										
Albemarle	464	39.3%	522	37.0%	491	37.6%	498	35.6%	482	32.9%
Buckingham	18	1.5%	24	1.7%	34	2.6%	44	3.1%	54	3.7%
Fluvanna	56	4.7%	63	4.5%	47	3.6%	74	5.3%	59	4.0%
Greene	59	5.0%	74	5.2%	49	3.8%	62	4.4%	49	3.3%
Louisa	37	3.1%	44	3.1%	75	5.7%	53	3.8%	56	3.8%
Nelson	41	3.5%	41	2.9%	60	4.6%	49	3.5%	45	3.1%
Ch'vlle	303	25.7%	386	27.4%	318	24.3%	333	23.8%	502	34.3%
IN-DISTRICT	978	82.8%	1154	81.8%	1074	82.2%	1113	79.6%	1247	85.2%
OUT-DIST.	149	12.6%	201	14.2%	154	11.8%	221	15.8%	152	10.4%
OUT-STATE	54	4.6%	56	4.0%	78	6.0%	64	4.6%	65	4.4%
TOTAL	1181	31.8%	1411	41.3%	1306	34.6%	1398	38.1%	1464	38.1%

SOURCE: Information on sex, race, and age was taken from the VCCS Student Enrollment Booklets, Tables 11B, 14A, 14B, and 15. Information on residence was taken directly from VCCS student data by means of a Fortran program written by the author. Note that percentages are by column by group except for the last row, which indicates the percentage of new students within the total student body.

ENROLLMENT CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW STUDENTS

The typical fall 1986 PVCC new student was a part-time, day student from the state of Virginia who attended classes on campus but was not enrolled in a curricular program and was not seeking a degree from the college (see Figures 6 through 10). A full-time student is one who takes 12 or more credits of course work during a particular quarter. An evening student attends classes only after 6:00 p.m. An off-campus student attends classes at one or more locations other than the main campus.

Figure 6: PVCC New Students By Full-Time/Part-Time Status Fall 1986

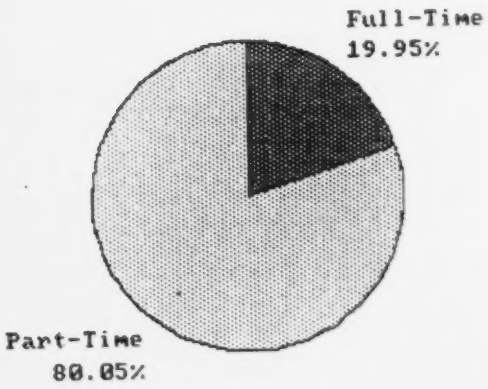


Figure 7: PVCC New Students By Day/ Evening Status Fall 1986

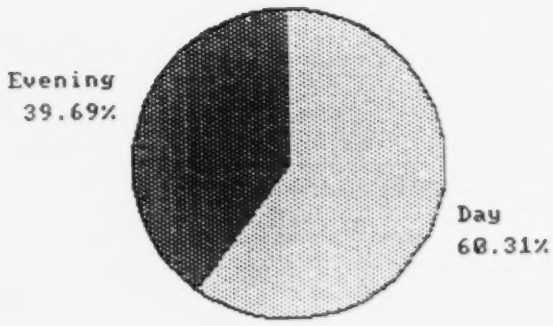


Figure 8: PVCC New Students By Location Fall 1986

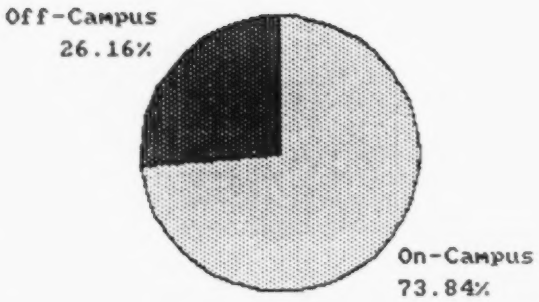


Figure 9: PVCC New Students By Domicile Fall 1986

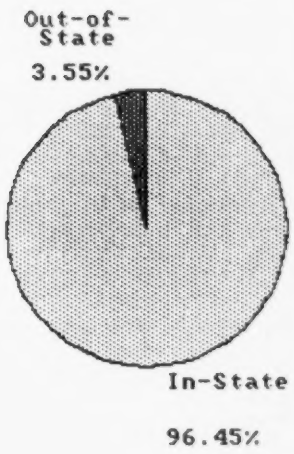


Figure 10: PVCC New Students By Program -- Fall 1986

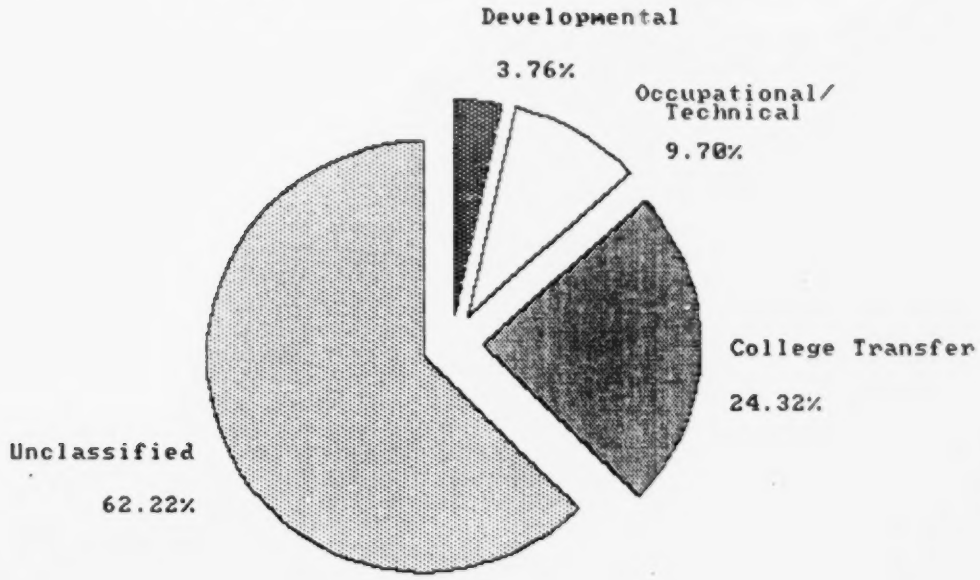
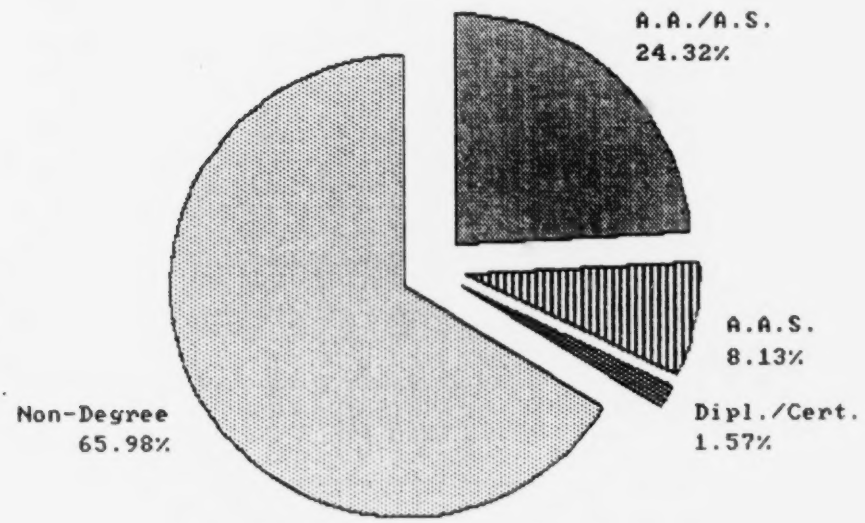


Figure 11: PVCC New Students By Degree Sought -- Fall 1986



A close examination of Table 4 reveals that differences in enrollment characteristics were sharper among new students than between new and returning students. Major differences between first-time and transfer students included the following:

- a larger proportion of first-time students attended classes full-time than did transfer students (see Figure 12). Nearly 30% of all first-timers were classified as full-time, as opposed to less than 10% of transfers.
- While the majority of first-time students were classified as day students (70.2%), less than half of the transfer students were classified as day students (49.7%).
- A slightly larger percentage of transfer students tended to study off-campus than did first-time students.
- A slightly larger percentage of transfer students were classified as out-of-state students.

- A larger percentage of first-time than of transfer students were enrolled in programs of study leading toward degrees or certificates (see Figure 13). Nearly 80% of transfer students were either unclassified or developmental students; slightly over 50% of first-time students were unclassified or developmental. Over a third of the first-time students were enrolled in college transfer programs (those leading toward the Associate of Arts [A.A.] or Associate of Science [A.S.] degrees); less than 15% of the transfer students were enrolled in college transfer programs. Over 13% of the first-time students were enrolled in occupational/technical programs (those leading toward the Associate of Applied Science [A.A.S.] degree); less than 6% of the transfer students were enrolled in occupational/technical programs.

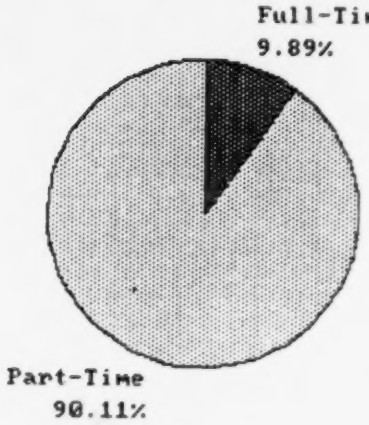
TABLE 4: ENROLLMENT CHARACTERISTICS OF FALL QUARTER 1986 PVCC STUDENTS

CATEGORY	First-Time No.	First-Time Pct.	Transfer No.	Transfer Pct.	Returning No.	Returning Pct.	All Students No.	All Students Pct.
Full-Time	222	29.4%	70	9.9%	383	14.3%	675	16.3%
Part-Time	534	70.6%	638	90.1%	2292	85.7%	3464	83.7%
Day Student	531	70.2%	352	49.7%	1675	62.6%	2558	61.8%
Evening Student	225	29.8%	356	50.3%	1000	37.4%	1581	38.2%
On-Campus	570	75.4%	511	72.2%	2010	75.1%	3091	74.7%
Off-Campus	186	24.6%	197	27.8%	665	24.9%	1048	25.3%
In-State	740	97.9%	672	94.9%	2650	99.1%	4062	98.1%
Out-of-State	16	2.1%	36	5.1%	25	0.9%	77	1.9%
Developmental	50	6.6%	5	0.7%	75	2.8%	130	3.1%
Occup./Technical	102	13.5%	40	5.6%	557	20.8%	699	16.9%
College Transfer	253	33.5%	103	14.5%	798	29.8%	1154	27.9%
Unclassified	351	46.4%	560	79.1%	1245	46.5%	2156	52.1%
A.A.	68	9.0%	23	3.2%	177	6.6%	268	6.5%
A.S.	185	24.5%	80	11.3%	621	23.2%	886	21.4%
A.A.S.	85	11.2%	34	4.8%	488	18.2%	607	14.7%
Diploma	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	11	0.4%	11	0.3%
Certificate	17	2.2%	6	0.8%	58	2.2%	81	2.0%
Developmental	50	6.6%	5	0.7%	75	2.8%	130	3.1%
Unclassified	351	46.4%	560	79.1%	1245	46.5%	2156	52.1%
TOTAL	756	18.3%	708	17.1%	2675	64.6%	4139	100.0%

SOURCE: VCCS Student Enrollment Booklet, Tables 4, 14A, 14B, and 15. Note that percentages are by column for each group except for the last row, which indicates the percentage of each category in the student body as a whole.

Figure 12

PVCC Transfer Students Fall 1986



PVCC First-Time Students Fall 1986

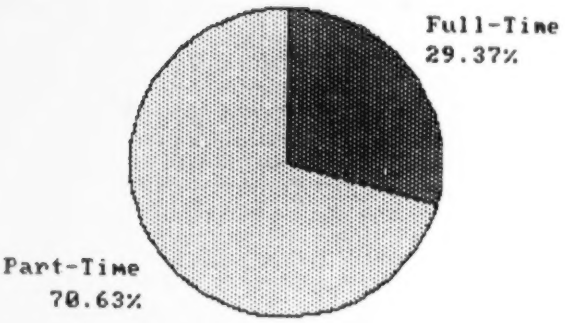
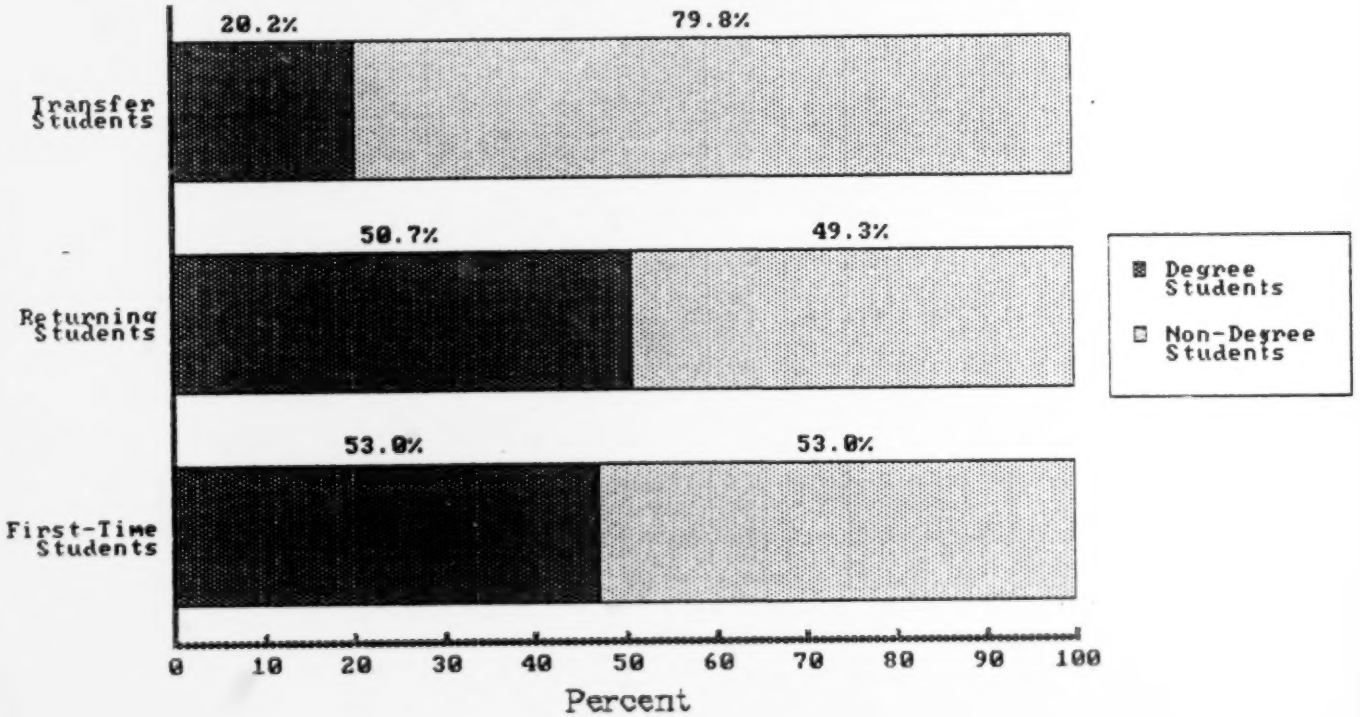


Figure 13: Percentage of Degree-Seeking PVCC Students By Classification (Fall 1986)



What these differences reveal, especially when considered in conjunction with the fact that first-time students are mostly younger than transfer students, is that the two categories, first-time and transfer, are meaningful terms for pointing out distinctions among new students. Enrollment characteristics of first-time students lead one to conclude that first-timers are typically recent high school graduates attending PVCC for the purpose of either obtaining jobs or transferring to four-year colleges or universities. Enrollment characteristics of transfer students, however, lead one to conclude that transfers typically attend PVCC for personal or professional reasons and are less likely to be seeking degrees from the college.

Enrollment characteristics of new students have been quite stable during the past four years (see Table 5). Between fall 1983 and fall 1984, the percentage of unclassified students did increase sharply, but this was the result of procedural changes in the general studies program. Table 6 presents new student enrollment by curriculum from fall 1982 through fall 1986.

TABLE 5: ENROLLMENT CHARACTERISTICS OF PVCC FALL QUARTER NEW STUDENTS

CATEGORY	1982 No.	1982 Pct.	1983 No.	1983 Pct.	1984 No.	1984 Pct.	1985 No.	1985 Pct.	1986 No.	1986 Pct.
Full-Time	303	25.7%	334	23.7%	262	20.1%	263	18.8%	292	19.9%
Part-Time	878	74.3%	1077	76.3%	1044	79.9%	1135	81.2%	1172	80.1%
Day Student	730	61.8%	835	59.2%	688	52.7%	807	57.7%	883	60.3%
Evening Student	451	38.2%	576	40.8%	618	47.3%	591	42.3%	581	39.7%
On-Campus	895	75.8%	1012	71.7%	964	73.8%	963	68.9%	1081	73.8%
Off-Campus	286	24.2%	399	28.3%	342	26.2%	435	31.1%	383	26.2%
In-State	1137	96.3%	1365	96.7%	1241	95.0%	1340	95.9%	1412	96.4%
Out-of-State	44	3.7%	46	3.3%	65	5.0%	58	4.1%	52	3.6%
Developmental	88	7.5%	101	7.2%	89	6.8%	35	2.5%	55	3.8%
Occup./Technical	138	11.7%	149	10.6%	110	8.4%	138	9.9%	142	9.7%
College Transfer	428	36.2%	491	34.8%	273	20.9%	311	22.2%	356	24.3%
Unclassified	417	35.3%	670	47.5%	834	63.9%	914	65.4%	911	62.2%
A.A.	43	3.6%	61	4.3%	40	3.1%	65	4.6%	91	6.2%
A.S.	495	41.9%	430	30.5%	233	17.8%	246	17.6%	265	18.1%
A.A.S.	96	8.1%	119	8.4%	101	7.7%	117	8.4%	119	8.1%
Diploma	9	0.8%	7	0.5%	2	0.2%	5	0.4%	0	0.0%
Certificate	33	2.8%	23	1.6%	7	0.5%	16	1.1%	23	1.6%
Developmental	88	7.5%	101	7.2%	89	6.8%	35	2.5%	55	3.8%
Unclassified	417	35.3%	670	47.5%	834	63.9%	914	65.4%	911	62.2%
TOTAL	1181	31.8%	1411	41.3%	1306	34.6%	1398	38.1%	1464	38.1%

SOURCE: VCCS Student Enrollment Booklet, Tables 4, 14A, and 14B. Note that percentages are by column by group except for the last row, which indicates the percentage of new students in the student body as a whole.

TABLE 6: PVCC FALL QUARTER NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT BY CURRICULUM

CATEGORY	1982 No.	1982 Pct.	1983 No.	1983 Pct.	1984 No.	1984 Pct.	1985 No.	1985 Pct.	1986 No.	1986 Pct.
Business Admin.	66	9.8%	53	8.3%	51	13.3%	75	16.7%	74	14.9%
Education	12	1.8%	8	1.3%	9	2.3%	19	4.2%	19	3.8%
Fine Arts	4	0.6%	3	0.5%	6	1.6%	4	0.9%	14	2.8%
General Studies	384	56.8%	329	51.4%	125	32.6%	113	25.2%	143	28.7%
Liberal Arts	39	5.8%	58	9.1%	34	8.9%	61	13.6%	77	15.5%
Science	33	4.9%	40	6.3%	48	12.5%	39	8.7%	29	5.8%
AA/AS TOTAL	538	79.6%	491	76.7%	273	71.3%	311	69.3%	356	71.5%
Accounting	8	1.2%	11	1.7%	13	3.4%	7	1.6%	18	3.6%
Computer Prog.	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	33	7.3%	19	3.8%
Data Processing	39	5.8%	39	6.1%	27	7.0%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%
Draft & Design	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	1.2%
Electronics	6	0.9%	10	1.6%	11	2.9%	22	4.9%	19	3.8%
Management	19	2.8%	27	4.2%	21	5.5%	27	6.0%	23	4.6%
Marketing	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Merchandising	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Nursing	6	0.9%	6	0.9%	4	1.0%	3	0.7%	2	0.4%
Police Science	6	0.9%	9	1.4%	12	3.1%	11	2.4%	12	2.4%
Resp. Therapy	4	0.6%	8	1.3%	5	1.3%	3	0.7%	8	1.6%
Sec. Science	8	1.2%	9	1.4%	6	1.6%	10	2.2%	11	2.2%
AAS TOTAL	96	14.2%	119	18.6%	101	26.4%	117	26.1%	119	23.9%
Arts/Crafts	1	0.1%	1	0.2%	1	0.3%	1	0.2%	2	0.4%
Bus. Ind. Super.	3	0.4%	3	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Career Studies	7	1.0%	8	1.3%	2	0.5%	12	2.7%	14	2.8%
Child Care	5	0.7%	0	0.0%	2	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Clerical Studies	5	0.7%	2	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		0.0%
Drafting	3	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
Draft Design	3	0.4%	4	0.6%	2	0.5%	5	1.1%		0.0%
Elec./Electr.	6	0.9%	3	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Electronic Svc.	2	0.3%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	2	0.4%
Health Tech.	7	1.0%	8	1.3%	2	0.5%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
Law Enforcement	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.6%
DIP/CERT TOTAL	42	6.2%	30	4.7%	9	2.3%	21	4.7%	23	4.6%
TOTAL	676	18.2%	640	18.7%	383	10.2%	449	12.2%	498	12.9%

SOURCE: VCCS Student Enrollment Booklet, Table 6C. Note that percentages are by column except for the last row, which shows the percentage of new, degree-seeking students.

PVCC AND VCCS NEW STUDENTS

Table 7 presents a comparison between PVCC and VCCS fall 1986 new students by selected demographic and enrollment characteristics.

TABLE 7: A COMPARISON OF PVCC NEW STUDENTS AND OTHER VCCS NEW STUDENTS BY SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC AND ENROLLMENT CHARACTERISTICS (FALL 1986)

CATEGORY	PVCC	VCCS
Male	37.6%	44.2%
Female	62.4%	55.8%
White	87.4%	82.3%
Black	10.1%	12.6%
Indian	0.3%	0.3%
Asian	1.3%	2.6%
Hispanic	0.8%	1.4%
Other	0.1%	0.7%
Under 18	1.2%	4.2%
18-21	31.1%	34.3%
22-24	12.7%	11.0%
25-34	25.0%	25.4%
35-44	17.7%	15.4%
45-59	7.9%	7.6%
60 & Over	4.4%	2.1%
Full-Time	19.9%	25.2%
Part-Time	80.1%	74.8%
Day Student	60.3%	65.9%
Evening Student	39.7%	34.1%
On-Campus	73.8%	86.7%
Off-Campus	26.2%	13.3%

CATEGORY	PVCC	VCCS
In-State	96.4%	92.6%
Out-of-State	3.6%	7.4%
Developmental	3.8%	1.9%
Occup./Technical	9.7%	24.1%
College Transfer	24.3%	17.2%
Unclassified	62.2%	56.9%
A.A.	6.2%	6.8%
A.S.	18.1%	10.4%
A.A.S.	8.1%	17.0%
Diploma	0.0%	0.4%
Certificate	1.6%	6.7%
Developmental	3.8%	1.9%
Unclassified	62.2%	56.9%
No Major	66.0%	58.8%
Health	0.8%	1.0%
Business	10.9%	19.9%
Agriculture	--	0.2%
Public Service	1.0%	1.9%
Fine Arts	1.1%	1.3%
Liberal Arts/Educ	16.3%	9.1%
Science	2.0%	2.6%
Engr/Industr	1.9%	5.2%

SOURCE: VCCS Student Enrollment Booklet, Tables 4, 5, 11B, 14A, and 14B. Note that the two categories, PVCC and VCCS, are exclusive--PVCC data have been removed from VCCS data.

The typical PVCC new student was more likely to be female than the typical VCCS new student. Perhaps the reason for this is that PVCC offers a number of programs, such as nursing and respiratory therapy, which traditionally appeal to women. The typical PVCC new student was also more likely to be white than the typical VCCS new student. Slightly over 17% of the VCCS students were minority, while only slightly over 12% of the PVCC students were minority.

The typical VCCS new student was more likely to be studying full-time on-campus during the day than the typical PVCC new student. Over a quarter of the VCCS new students were classified as full-time, while less than one-fifth of the PVCC new students were full-timers. The reason for this is that so many of PVCC's new students are part-time transfer students, and transfer students are less likely to study full-time than first-time students. As noted earlier, 48.4% of all PVCC new students were classified as transfer students, and only 9.9% of these transfers were full-time students. Only 20.8% of all VCCS new students were classified as transfer students, and of these VCCS transfers, 12.9% were full-time students.

The reason that proportionally more PVCC new students study off-campus during the evening than do VCCS new students may be related to the success of PVCC's Division of Extended Learning Opportunities. Classes are offered throughout the PVCC service region, and people take advantage of the opportunity to earn college credit at convenient locations and times.

In terms of program enrollment and degree classification, proportionally more PVCC students were enrolled in college transfer (bachelors credit) programs than were VCCS students (24.3% for PVCC; 17.2% for the VCCS), and more VCCS students were enrolled in occupational/technical programs than were PVCC students (24.1% for the VCCS; 9.7% for PVCC). Approximately the same percentage of both PVCC and VCCS students were enrolled in programs leading toward the A.A. degree (6.2% for PVCC; 6.8% for the VCCS), but PVCC had a higher percentage

of students enrolled in A.S. degree programs (18.1% for PVCC; 10.4% for the VCCS), and the VCCS had a higher percentage of students enrolled in A.A.S. degree programs (17.0% for the VCCS; 8.1% for PVCC) and certificates (6.7% for the VCCS; 1.6% for PVCC). A slightly larger percentage of PVCC new students were non-curricular (unclassified or developmental) than were VCCS students. Sixty-six percent of the PVCC new students were non-curricular; 58.8% of the VCCS new students were non-curricular.

In terms of major curriculum, proportionally more of the VCCS new students studied business than did PVCC new students (19.9% for the VCCS; 10.9% for PVCC), and more PVCC new students studied the liberal arts or education than did VCCS new students (16.3% for PVCC; 9.1% for the VCCS). Because proportionally more PVCC new students were non-curricular than VCCS new students, as noted above, more had undeclared majors.

CONCLUSIONS

The ratio of new to returning students at PVCC was approximately 1:2 during Fall Quarter 1986, and this ratio has been fairly constant during the 1980's. The enrollment of new students has mirrored that of all students during this time period. Between fall 1982 and fall 1983, large increases occurred both in new and in total student headcount; between fall 1983 and fall 1984, both new and total student headcount decreased; between fall 1984 and fall 1986, the percentage increase in both new and total student headcount was slightly over 12%.

In most respects, fall 1986 new and returning students were quite similar. The ratio of males to females was approximately 1:3, over 90% of all students were white, the typical age of a student was 29 to 31, and 2 of every 3 students resided in the city of Charlottesville or the county of Albemarle. A slightly higher percentage of new students studied full-time at PVCC, and a slightly lower percentage were unclassified.

The differences among new students were more pronounced than the differences between new and returning students. First-time students were typically younger than transfer students and were more likely to study full-time at PVCC. Proportionally more first-time students studied during the day at the main PVCC campus than did transfer students. A larger percentage of first-time students were enrolled in programs of study leading toward degrees or certificates.

One cannot help but conclude that the goals of first-time and transfer students differ markedly, but there is no evidence to support such a conclusion. Perhaps a future study should focus more upon the goals and aspirations of new students and less upon demographic and enrollment characteristics.

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